

15. CHILDREN'S FACILITIES.

15.1* Application.

This section applies to facilities, or portions of facilities, constructed according to children's dimensions and anthropometrics for ages 2 through 12. Facilities covered by this section shall comply with the applicable requirements of 4.1 through 4.35 and the special application sections, except as modified or otherwise provided in this section. All public and common use areas covered by this section are required to be designed and constructed to comply with 4.1 through 4.35, except as modified or otherwise provided in this section. Accessible elements and spaces covered by this section shall be on an accessible route complying with 4.3, 15.3, and 15.4. The specifications in this section are based on children's dimensions and anthropometrics.

The phrase "constructed according to children's dimensions and anthropometrics" means where the construction of a facility reflects the size and dimensions, reach ranges, level of strength and stamina, or other characteristics of children. Facilities constructed that do not reflect children's characteristics are not covered by this section.

15.2 Reach Ranges.

15.2.1 General. The requirements in 4.2.5 and 4.2.6 are modified by the following provisions.

15.2.2 Forward and Side Reach. The high forward or high side reach, and the low forward or low side reach shall comply with A, B, or C in the table below. Selection of A, B, or C should correspond to the age range of the primary user group.

FORWARD AND SIDE REACH

Age Group	High Reach (not more than)		Low Reach (not less than)
A -- Ages 2 through 4	36 in (915 mm)	20 in (510 mm)	
B -- Ages 5 through 8	40 in (1015 mm)	18 in (455 mm)	
C -- Ages 9 through 12	44 in (1120 mm)	16 in (405 mm)	

15.3 Protruding Objects.

The requirements in 4.4.1 are modified by 15.3. Objects projecting from walls with their leading edges between 12 in and 80 in (305 mm and 2030 mm) above the finish floor shall protrude no more than 4 in (100 mm) into walks, halls, corridors, passageways, or aisles. Objects mounted with their leading edges at or below 12 in (305 mm) above the finish floor may protrude any amount. Free-standing objects mounted on posts or pylons may overhang 12 in (305 mm) maximum from 12 in to 80 in (305 mm to 2030 mm) above the ground or finish floor. Protruding objects shall not reduce the clear width of an accessible route or maneuvering space.

15.4 Handrails at Ramps and Stairs.

15.4.1 General. In addition to the handrails required by 4.8 and 4.9, a second set of handrails shall be provided complying with 4.8.5 or 4.9.4 and 4.26.2, except as modified by the following provisions.

15.4.2 Height. The top of handrail gripping surfaces shall be mounted between 20 in and 28 in (510 mm and 710 mm) above ramp surfaces or stair nosings.

15.4.3 Size. The gripping surfaces of handrails shall have a diameter or width of 1 in to 1-1/4 in (25 mm to 30 mm), or the shape shall provide an equivalent gripping surface.

15.5 Drinking Fountains and Water Coolers.

15.5.1 General. Drinking fountains or water coolers required to be wheelchair accessible by 4.1 shall comply with 4.15, except as modified by 15.5. The requirements in 4.15.2 and 4.15.5 are modified by the following provisions.

15.5.2 Spout Height. Spouts shall be no higher than 30 in (760 mm), measured from the floor or ground surface to the spout outlet.

15.5.3 Clearances. Wall-mounted and post-mounted cantilevered units shall have a clear knee space between the bottom of the apron and the floor or ground at least 24 in (610 mm) high and 8 in (205 mm) deep, measured from the leading edge of the fountain. Clear toe space shall be 12 in (305 mm) high minimum, measured from the finish floor. Such units shall also have a minimum clear floor space 30 in by 48 in (760 mm by 1220 mm) to allow a forward approach to the unit. The clear floor space may extend a maximum of 14 in (305 mm) underneath the fountain.

15.6 Water Closets, Toilet Seats, Grab Bars, and Toilet Paper Dispensers.

15.6.1 General. Water closets required to be accessible by 4.22.4 shall comply with 4.16, except as modified by 15.6. The requirements in 4.16 and 4.26.2 are modified by the following provisions.

15.6.2* Placement. The centerline and seat height of the water closet and the centerline height of the grab bars and toilet paper dispenser shall comply with A, B, or C in the table below. Selection of A, B, or C should correspond to the age range of the primary user group. The centerline requirements in the table do not apply to the 36 in (915 mm) wide alternate stall permitted in alterations by 4.1.6(3)(e)(ii). The centerline of water closets shall be measured from one side wall or stall partition.

Specifications for Water Closets, Toilet Seats, Grab Bars, and Toilet Paper Dispensers

Age Group	Water Closet Centerline	Toilet Seat Height	Grab Bar Height	Dispenser Height
A --- Ages 2 through 4	12 in (305 mm)	11 in to 12 in (280 mm to 305 mm)	18 in to 20 in (455 mm to 510 mm)	14 in (355 mm)
B --- (Ages 5 through 8)	12 in to 15 in (305 mm to 380 mm)	12 in to 15 in (305 mm to 380 mm)	20 in to 25 in (510 mm to 635 mm)	14 in to 17 in (355 mm to 430 mm)
C --- (Ages 9 through 12)	15 in to 18 in (380 mm to 455 mm)	15 in to 17 in (380 mm to 430 mm)	25 in to 27 in (635 mm to 685 mm)	17 in to 19 in (430 mm to 485 mm)

15.6.3 Grab Bar Size. The diameter or width of the gripping surface of a grab bar shall be 1 in to 1-1/4 in (25 mm to 30 mm), or the shape shall have an equivalent gripping surface.

15.6.4 Flush Controls. Flush controls shall be located within the reach ranges specified by 15.2.

15.7 Toilet Stalls.

15.7.1 General. Toilet stalls required to be accessible by 4.22.4 shall comply with 4.17, except as modified by 15.7. The requirements in 4.17.2, 4.17.3, 4.17.4, 4.17.6, and 4.26.2 are modified by the following provisions.

15.7.2 Water Closets. Water closets in accessible stalls shall comply with 15.6.

15.7.3 Depth. Standard stalls with floor- or wall-mounted water closets shall have a depth of 59 in (1500 mm) minimum. Standard stalls at the end of a row with floor- or wall-mounted water closets shall have a depth of 59 in (1500 mm) in addition to the minimum 36 in (915 mm) required for the stall door. Where provided in alterations, alternate stalls with floor- or wall-mounted water closets shall have a depth of 69 in (1745 mm) minimum.

15.7.4 Toe Clearance. In standard stalls of minimum dimension, the front partition and at least one side partition shall provide a toe clearance of 12 in (305 mm) minimum above the finish floor. If the depth of the stall is greater than 60 in (1525 mm), then the toe space is not required.

15.7.5 Grab Bars. Grab bar mounting heights shall comply with the heights specified in 15.6. The diameter or width of the gripping surfaces of a grab bar shall be 1 in to 1-1/4 in (25 mm to 30 mm), or the shape shall provide an equivalent gripping surface.

15.8 Lavatories and Mirrors.

15.8.1 General. Lavatories and mirrors required to be accessible by 4.22.6 and 4.23.6 shall comply with 4.19, except as modified by 15.8. The requirements in 4.19.2, 4.19.3, and 4.19.6 are modified by the following provisions.

15.8.2 Height and Clearances. Lavatories shall be mounted with the rim or counter surface no higher than 30 in (760 mm) above the finish floor. A clearance of 27 in (685 mm) minimum measured from the finish floor to the bottom of the apron shall be provided. Minimum clear knee space 24 in (610 mm) high, measured from the finish floor, and 8 in (205 mm) deep, measured from the leading edge of the lavatory, shall be provided. Clear toe space shall be 12 in (305 mm) high minimum, measured from the finish floor.

15.8.3 Clear Floor Space. Clear floor space shall extend a maximum of 14 in (355 mm) underneath the lavatory.

15.8.4 Mirrors. Mirrors shall be mounted with the bottom edge of the reflecting surface no higher than 34 in (865 mm) above the finish floor.

15.9 Storage.

15.9.1 General. Fixed storage facilities such as lockers, cabinets, shelves, closets, and drawers required to be accessible by 4.1 shall comply with 4.25, except as modified by 15.9. The requirements in 4.25.3 are modified by the following provision.

15.9.2 Height. Accessible storage spaces shall be within at least one of the reach ranges specified in 15.2. Clothes rods, hooks, or shelves shall be a maximum of 36 in (915 mm) above the finish floor for a side approach.

15.10 Fixed or Built-in Seating and Tables.

15.10.1 General. Fixed or built-in seating or tables required to be accessible by 4.1 shall comply with 4.32, except as modified by 15.10. The requirements in 4.32.2, 4.32.3, and 4.32.4 are modified by the following provisions.

15.10.2 Seating. Clear floor space shall not overlap knee space by more than 14 in (355 mm).

15.10.3 Knee Clearances. Knee clearance at least 24 in (610 mm) high, 30 in (760 mm) wide, and 14 in (355 mm) deep shall be provided.

15.10.4 Height of Tables or Counters. The tops of accessible tables and counters shall be from 26 in to 30 in (660 mm to 760 mm) above the finish floor or ground.

APPENDIX

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A15.1 Application.

Section 15 modifies the technical requirements in section 4. This section applies to facilities, or portions thereof, constructed according to children's dimensions and anthropometrics for ages 2 through 12. State and local codes and guidelines, as well as best practices, often specify that facilities be designed to accommodate children rather than adults, particularly where children are the primary population served by a facility. These codes, guidelines, and best practices may specify lower mounting heights for certain elements used primarily by children, such as water fountains, lavatories, and toilets. This section provides accessibility requirements for these elements and is intended to apply where state or local codes, guidelines, or best practices specify design for children.

The phrase "constructed according to children's dimensions and anthropometrics" means where the construction of a facility reflects the size and dimensions, reach ranges, level of strength and stamina, or other characteristics of children, thus rendering such a facility more usable by children. Facilities constructed that do not reflect children's characteristics are not covered by section 15.

Section 15 also specifies that accessible elements and spaces constructed according to children's dimensions and anthropometrics shall be on an accessible route complying with 4.3, 15.3, and 15.4. Additional routes serving the children's area are not subject to the requirements in this section. Accessible routes subject to this section must comply with the requirements for protruding objects (15.3) and handrails at ramps and stairs (15.4). For example, a children's area may be located in a portion of a community center and may have elements and features constructed according to children's dimensions and anthropometrics, such as storage units, toilets, or lavatories. Where the accessible route serving the children's area includes a ramp, additional handrails for children must be provided. Additionally, objects along this accessible route that project from walls must comply with the requirements for protruding objects in 15.3. An accessible route complying with this section shall also be provided where individual elements are positioned at heights or locations based on children's sizes and dimensions, such as a drinking fountain in a shopping mall.

A15.6.2 Placement. The requirements for water closets, toilet seats, grab bars, and toilet paper dispensers in 15.6 reflect the differences in the size, stature, and reach ranges of children ages 2 through 12. Section 15.6.2 requires such elements to comply with the specifications in A, B, or C in the table provided. A, B, and C correspond to three age groups of children: 2 through 4, 5 through 8, and 9 through 12, respectively. To permit design discretion where toilet rooms may serve more than one age group, or where the age group of users does not correspond to the specific age groups listed in the table, this section specifies that selection of A, B, or C "should" correspond to the age of the primary user group. (See 3.4 General Terminology, regarding use of the term "should.")

The application of the specifications in A, B, or C in the table may allow flexibility when designing for more than one age group. For example, a water closet with centerline at 12 in (305 mm), toilet seat at 12 in (305 mm), grab bars at 20 in (510 mm), and dispenser at 14 in (355 mm) above the finish floor may be appropriate for A (ages 2 through 4) and B (ages 5 through 8). Similarly, a water closet with centerline at 15 in (380 mm), toilet seat at 15 in (380 mm), grab bars at 25 in (635 mm), and dispenser at 17 in (430 mm) above the finish floor may be appropriate for B (ages 5 through 8) and C (ages 9 through 12). Multiple accessible fixtures are not required in toilet rooms serving more than one age group.